

SENATOR DeCAMP: Okay. With that information let me give you some free advice. Of course, free advice is worth just about that much. I've observed this homestead game in here for several years. Of course, when it first really came up I was a mere novice in here and wasn't completely aware of what was going on. I hate to see homestead exemptions used in the wrong way. The first time, and the way we made the major homestead exemption, and, heck, we all know and we might as well admit it. That was the Terry election campaign. Terry didn't have a big fund himself that year. I don't know how many million campaign funds we had here through homestead exemption. Now if we're going to have it let's have it be an honest relief to those that legitimately deserve it. So the free advice goes something like this--let's move your bill off General File, Bernice, whether we're necessarily for it or agin it. Then let's you and Dave see if you have any areas of agreement. Then if you don't, maybe he should try to gut the bill and go his direction on Select, and make the decision to go one way or the other. Does that make any sense to you, Dave? No? Well then you can probably....

SENATOR NEWELL: John, let me answer that. The problem we're going to have here, and let me be perfectly frank, is that we have two different concepts. Okay. We have a continuation of the present program which is easy to understand because it's basically a continuation. But we have a new program that tries to deal with needs of the people, that tries to deal with a rationalized approach, that tries to make each family, with the same amount of spendable money, get the same amount of relief from the state. I think that this concept is a little tougher to understand. So at this point we'd like to.... I think it's very important that this body come to understand the two programs. There is nothing like the present and the immediacy of the situation for them to come to understand this. I do think that the circuit breaker should be brought up here so we can contrast the two bills. We ought to let Senator Labeledz amend it any way she wants to and then let the circuit breaker be discussed and explained so that people understand it, and then let the body determine from that what they want to do. But it's not going to be done all today. Moving it to Select File doesn't solve the problem. The body has got to understand both issues. They've got to come to grips with it, and they haven't been willing to do it till now. These are the things that are going to have to be done in order to find some sort of solution, in order for the Legislature to make a decision based on good, practical, common sense, and that is necessary. That is going to be something that can only be done by extended and protracted debate on this floor. It's necessary, it's good for the public, it's good for the legislators. You know the only thing is by moving one bill, trying to move it on, that means that we're really going to have to just try to amend it. We lose all concepts. Compromises may be possible....

SENATOR SAVAGE: Senator DeCamp, you have one mintue.

SENATOR NEWELL: ...but they won't be made right here on the floor this afternoon. Thank you, John.

SENSENATOR DeCAMP: Sounds like something I'd do. Thank you.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Chair recognizes Senator Newell.